

REMARKS

Amendments

Claim 1 is amended to incorporate the features of prior claim 11. In addition, claim 1 is amended to delete the superfluous definitions of X^1 and X^2 . Proviso (2) in claim 1 is amended to delete “unsubstituted 1,4-naphthalene.” Further, claim 1 is amended to recite the proviso that if X is naphthalene-2,6-diyl that is unsubstituted or substituted in 1-, 4-, 5-, and/or 8-position with alkoxy, dimethylsiloxane or oxymethyloxirane, then both R^1 and R^2 are other than H and/or both R^3 and R^4 are other than H. See, e.g., page 8, line 19 – page 9, line 13 and formulas Ia, Ib, IIa, and IIb.

Claim 2 is amended to delete “unsubstituted 1,4-naphthalene” and also to recite that Ar R^1R^2 is not naphthalene-2,6-diyl or naphthalene-4,8-diyl that is substituted in 1-, 4-, 5-, and/or 8-position with alkoxy, dimethylsiloxane or oxymethyloxirane. See, e.g., page 8, line 19 – page 9, line 19.

Claim 11 is amended to delete formula IIb and the definition of “s”. Claim 40 is amended to be in independent form, to define R as being halogen, optionally substituted alkyl, optionally substituted cycloalkyl, optionally substituted aryl, optionally substituted heteroaryl, or P-Sp-, and to define s as being 1, 2 or 3.

New claim 42 is an independent device claim and recites that mono-, oligo- or polymer of formulae Ia – Ic, that X is -C≡C- or is selected from formulae IIa, IIc, IId, IIIf-IIi, IIIm, IIIn and their mirror images, and that Ar(R1R2) is selected from formulae IIIa –IIIc and IIIe and their mirror images. See, e.g., pages 8, 15, 16, and 17.

Withdrawn Claims

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of which claims are withdrawn. In the Office Action of October 10, 2007, the Examiner stated that claim 13 was withdrawn because it excluded X being phenylene. However, it is noted that the prior (and present) version of claim 1 also exclude X being 1,4-phenylene.

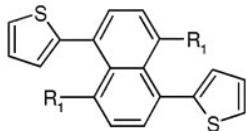
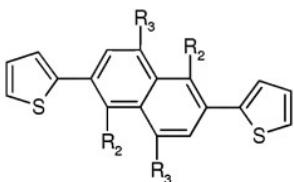
Rejection under 35 USC §112, second paragraph

Claim 1 is rejected as allegedly being indefinite. Claim 1 is amended above to delete the superfluous definitions of X^1 and X^2 . Claims 1 and 2 are amended to delete “1,4-naphthalene.” Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Rejection under 35 USC §103(a) in view of Tan et al.

Claims 1-7, 10, 11, 24-26, 33-34 and 40-41 are rejected as allegedly being obvious in view of the Tan et al. (US 6,359,149). This rejection is respectively traversed.

Tan et al. disclose bithienylenenaphthalene monomeric compounds of the following formulae:



wherein R₁ – R₃ are, *inter alia*, H or –O(CH₂)_nCH₃, as well as polymers dervived therefrom. See the formulas at the top of columns 3-4.

These bithienylenenaphthalene do not suggest compounds of applicants' formula I. See, e.g., the proviso clauses of claim 1.

Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fees associated with this response or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-3402.

Respectfully submitted,

/Brion P. Heaney/
Brion P. Heaney, Reg. No. 32,542
Attorney/Agent for Applicant(s)

MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO
& BRANIGAN, P.C.
Arlington Courthouse Plaza 1, Suite 1400
2200 Clarendon Boulevard
Arlington, Virginia 22201
Telephone: (703) 243-6333
Facsimile: (703) 243-6410

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